

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). The Senate will be in order so the Senator may be heard.

Mr. BREAUX. I thank the distinguished Senator.

EULOGY OF RUSSELL LONG

Mr. BREAUX. Madam President, I rise today to comment on the unfortunate and untimely passing this Friday evening of a great American, a former colleague of many of us in this body, the former distinguished Senator from my State of Louisiana, Senator Russell Long.

Someone once observed that "the greatest truths are the simplest, and so are the greatest men." This, indeed, was Russell Long, a simple man who loved his family, his God, his country, and our State of Louisiana. He was a man who always answered the call of duty and who, to quote Russell, always "did the best he could as God gave him the light to see."

Russell Long was my colleague. He was my partner in the Congress, he was my teacher, and he was also my friend.

Russell Long was a Senator in the last century, but his vision, his ideas, and his views on how a government should work will last as long as history is recorded.

I do not think it is an insult to say that Russell Long was a simple man who achieved greatness by answering the call of duty. Knowing him as I did—and many of us did—I believe he would proudly accept that description.

As a boy of only 16, Russell watched as his father died from an assassin's bullet and then dutifully accepted the call to fulfill and complete his father's unfinished work. Anyone who knew Russell understood how much he loved his dad and how much his father's legacy meant to him.

Some might have regarded that legacy as an awesome and unwelcome burden. Russell, himself, sometimes strained under the weight of high expectations and the harsh reviews that historians and journalists wrote about his father. But he never forgot that he was Huey Long's son. And, so, he dutifully dedicated his life to the work his father had started. The result, as we all know, was the body of law that created employee stock ownership plans. Those of us who knew him understood that this was Russell's most passionate work and, to him, a modern version of Huey's "Share Our Wealth" program. Just as his father was a champion for the poor and dispossessed, so did Russell become one of the most effective advocates of the notion that every American has a right to share in the great wealth and opportunity of the United States.

Just as he answered the call of duty when it came to his family legacy, Russell also answered the call of duty when it came to serving his country. In 1942, during the darkest hours of the Second World War, Russell volunteered to serve his Nation in the Navy. During

the war, he distinguished himself in battle as the commander of a landing craft in the Mediterranean Sea during the Allied invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Southern France. Russell Long was truly among our greatest generation—a man of courage valor, faith and compassion—a patriot and a true American hero.

Russell answered the call of duty to his country in other ways. In 1948, when Senator John Overton died, Russell followed his father and mother into the U.S. Senate. He was sworn into office alongside other men elected that year—giants such as Lyndon Johnson, Hubert Humphrey, Robert Kerr, and Paul Douglas. In a body that had disdained his father, Russell—he was only 30 years old at the time—began a remarkable 38-year career during which he worked tirelessly and effectively on behalf of the poor, the elderly, and average Americans who wanted a chance to achieve the American dream.

As there are 100 Senators, there are 100 Russell Long stories, from Uncle Earl to his father Huey, to Russell's theory of fair taxation summarized in his immortal words, "Don't tax you, don't tax me, tax that fellow behind the tree."

Were I to list Russell's legislative achievements, we would be here all afternoon. But I don't think it is an overstatement to say that few people in our Nation's history have had more of an impact on our Nation's laws than Russell Long. Tens of millions of elderly people have literally been saved by Medicare—the health care system that Russell and Lyndon Johnson crafted and enacted in the Senate in 1965. Millions more handicapped people today have a better quality of life because Russell Long thought it important to expand the Social Security system to include the disabled. That happened in 1956 and it was the first major expansion of the Social Security system—and it would not have happened if not for Russell's tenacity in seeing it through to passage.

Millions of poor working Americans today have Russell Long to thank for the Earned Income Tax Credit, an idea he developed and passed into law in the early 1970s. Then and now, the EITC remains the cornerstone of our Nation's effort to give the working poor a better chance at a decent standard of living.

Russell also cared deeply about our American system of government and, in the wake of the Watergate scandals, worried that Americans might lose faith in the system he had fought—literally fought—to protect. For that reason, he pushed through legislation to change the way that we finance Presidential campaigns and established the tax form check-off that has guaranteed the integrity of our Presidential elections for more than a quarter century.

During my 14 years in the House, I had watched Russell closely. I admired him, learned from him, and felt privileged to say that I had served with him in the Congress. And I remember how

excited I was when Russell finally realized that I was a congressman and not a young staff member.

But it has been my service on the Senate Finance Committee—the committee he chaired for 14 years—that has taught me so much about the genius and skill of the man who dominated the Senate for so many years. It was because of men such as Russell that the Senate worked so well during the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s.

With Russell, his colleagues were neither Republican nor Democrat. They were just Americans who he considered his friends and colleagues in the Senate who were elected—as he looked at his life—to make Government work for the people we represent.

On a personal level, Lois and I will always remember Russell Long as a kind, decent, generous man who welcomed us into his life and invited us to share in a cause greater than ourselves. Carolyn was the love of his life, a gracious and charming lady, who became his partner in every way and is still known in Washington and Louisiana as one of the best and talented partners a public official could ever have. To Carolyn, Kay and Pam, I know I speak for Russell's colleagues in the Senate and for the people of this State when I say how grateful we are for the life of this simple man who dutifully answered the call to greatness.

So today we gather in sorrow because we have lost a friend, but let us all be thankful for having been here when Russell Long was here. May the Good Lord take him into his hands and welcome him into the Kingdom of Heaven.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURNS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KELO-TV ON 50 YEARS OF SUCCESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, in 1953, Joe L. Floyd opened the doors of South Dakota's first television station, and began his mission to provide television programming to even the most remote areas of our State. Since then, South Dakotans have had the comfort of knowing there was somewhere they could turn to obtain critical local information and programming. Through tornados and blizzards, KELO-TV has been there. Today, I come to the floor of the Senate to congratulate KELO on its 50th anniversary.

Providing television coverage to a rural State like South Dakota is no small challenge. The severe weather and vast distances make it difficult to get the airwaves into the homes of viewers, let alone to provide them with

high-quality broadcasting and information in the manner KELO has over the years. In fact, after several towers were lost, many dubbed KELOLAND to be the Bermuda triangle of television towers. To KELO's credit, these setbacks never kept the station off the air for long, as their engineers scrambled around the clock to get the station up and running again quickly.

Despite the fact that KELO does not service any major metropolitan areas, it has always tried to take advantage of the most cutting-edge technologies that would allow them to offer the best local broadcasting to its viewers. Some of the station's technological highlights include: In 1955, KELO broadcast the first live local news broadcasts from the second floor of the Hollywood Theater Building. In 1957, KELO aired a game between Sioux Falls Cathedral and Marty Mission—the first live broadcast of a sports competition in South Dakota. In 1968, KELOLAND TV was the first station in the area to air the local news and programming in color. In 1991, KELOLAND TV was the first local station to bring closed-captioning of newscasts and many other programs to the deaf and hearing-impaired community. In 1997, KELO installed the first local Doppler weather radar report that allowed residents to have the most up-to-date information on the rapidly developing storms and severe weather conditions for which South Dakota is famous. Finally, this year, KELOLAND brought digital programming to the area.

KELO's commitment to its viewers has also been recognized nationally. In 2000, KELO's commitment to public service was rewarded with an Emmy in the Public Service Announcement—Campaign category. In 1999, KELO earned the "Friend in Need" Service to America Award from The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) for its outstanding coverage of the devastating tornado that struck the town of Spencer, South Dakota. Not only did KELO provide award-winning coverage of this devastating tornado, the station also helped raise more than \$1 million for the Spencer Tornado Relief Fund.

Most importantly, KELO has shown a sustained commitment to providing South Dakotans with the critical information they need about their communities. Whether it is news, weather or sports, local viewers have always been able to turn to KELO for accurate information.

I am proud to say that my staff and I currently enjoy a great working relationship with those who work at KELO. We know that we can always come to expect a fair and balanced approach to coverage of the issues and stories in which we are involved. Given KELO's history of honest and intelligent reporting, its viewers expect nothing less.

CBO REPORT

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, at the time Senate Report No. 108-43 was

filed, the Congressional Budget Office report was not available. The report is now available on the CBO website at www.cbo.gov.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER HANS N. GUKISEN

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to CWO Hans N. Gukeisen, a South Dakotan who was killed on May 9 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Chief Warrant Officer Gukeisen was a member of the 571st Medical Company and was stationed at Fort Carson, CO. He was killed when the Black Hawk helicopter he was copiloting crashed near Tikrit. Hans was on a mission to evacuate an Iraqi child who had suffered serious injuries in an explosion.

Chief Warrant Officer Gukeisen had joined the military in 1989 after graduating from Lead High School in Lead, SD. Although he left the military for a short time, he had continued his service by joining the South Dakota National Guard. To pursue his dream of becoming a helicopter pilot, Hans had re-enlisted in the Army and was assigned to the air ambulance of the 571st Medical Company.

Chief Warrant Officer Gukeisen's mother Margaret lives in Hill City, SD, and his father Terry in Lead. Hans' older brother Ray is also serving in the military as a Special Forces instructor at Fort Bragg. I know they, and everyone who knew Hans, will miss him deeply. Hans gave his life while helping defend America's liberty, freeing the Iraqi people, and, specifically in this mission, trying to save the life of a badly injured child.

Margaret has said she will remember her son as someone who loved hunting and fishing. These are common pastimes for a boy growing up in South Dakota. But I know the Gukeisen family, and the entire State of South Dakota, will also remember Hans as a hero who died while proudly serving his country.

Mr. President, I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my sympathies to the family of Chief Warrant Officer Gukeisen. I know that he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

SUPPORT FOR NATO ENLARGEMENT

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, when NATO formed in 1949, the world had been liberated from the grips of Hitler and the Japanese. But, the rise of communism and the Soviet Union brought new threats and the fear of nuclear war. NATO was created with vision and vigor to combat, through political and military means, the spread of communism. NATO has succeeded.

Today, the Soviets are gone, and a partnership between Russia and NATO is growing. Still, freedom-loving societies have been threatened anew by state and non-state supported terror-

ists looking to achieve their destructive aims through the spread of WMD.

The question looms whether NATO will address these new threats or be pushed to the side because it was unable to transform when the cold war ended. Some have said NATO's mission ended when the Berlin Wall fell. Some have even said NATO is dead. Well, I do not think NATO is dead. Now is the time to recommit ourselves to NATO to ensure that the world's greatest alliance for peace perseveres and is improved to remain strong for another 50 years. To do so, NATO must adapt its mission to deal with today's threats. NATO members must commit to a common defense with both policy and budgetary commitments that improve interoperability and reduce the capabilities gap between the U.S. and other members. As NATO's largest and most powerful member, the United States and her leaders in the Senate stand ready to strengthen NATO and repair recently strained relationships amongst NATO members. We must do so, and we must take the first step by supporting NATO enlargement and the admission of seven new members: Romania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

NATO expansion makes strategic sense because expansion creates a united Europe. The addition of the seven aspirants creates a land bridge forming a contiguous alliance on the European Continent. Now, Western Europe from the Atlantic will be connected with its allies in Greece and Turkey on the Mediterranean and Black Sea. With the Partnership for Peace, NATO spreads across three continents. Bitter enemies just 13 years ago are now reliable allies.

NATO membership is a carrot to political and economic reform to all nations wishing to join the alliance. Again, just 13 years ago, the seven proposed new members of NATO were under the darkness and weight of the Iron Curtain. Today, they are burgeoning democracies committed to market economics. To be in NATO, a democratic form of governance is needed. Spain, Greece, and Portugal undertook political reforms to gain NATO approval, and the same is true today for the seven countries currently seeking NATO admission.

The seven new members are ready to actively participate and contribute to a robust NATO. In fact they are already doing so. I would like to cite Romania as one example. Romania has undertaken major political and economic reforms. Romania overthrew Nicolae Ceausescu—a ruthless and oppressive totalitarian leader. Since being unshackled, Romania has celebrated its freedom. Romania has held four nationwide elections, and democracy is blossoming.

Romania is also committed to the defense of the members of the NATO alliance, both in Europe and the U.S. Some have questioned what the seven new members can bring to the table to